

Mohawk Dutch

Mohawk Dutch is a now extinct Dutch-based creole language mainly spoken during the 17th century west of Albany, New York in the area around the Mohawk River, by the Dutch colonists who traded with or to a lesser extent mixed with the local population from the Mohawk nation.

At the height of the Republic of the Seven United Netherlands's North American colony of New Netherland, there were 18 languages spoken within Dutch-controlled territory.^[1] Dutch settlers frequently married First Nations women, most commonly from the Mohawk with whom they were strong allies.^[2] The resulting children often drifted between the territory of the Iroquois Confederacy and New Netherland, forming among themselves a creole taking elements from both languages.

The language disappeared in the 20th century.^[3] One lullaby purported to be in Mohawk Dutch was recorded as part of the research for the Dictionary of American Regional English (from 4:28 on here (http://digicoll.library.wisc.edu/AmerLangs/data/audio/MmBib/DARE/2/11xx/reference/1174-S1_NY194r.mp4)); it is mostly German with one Dutch diminutive suffix (whose German equivalent also occurs), one Dutch word and one word ("baby") that probably comes from a local language.

Mohawk Dutch	
Native to	New Netherland
Region	North America
Extinct	unknown; possibly late 19th to early 20th century
Language family	Dutch-based creole with Mohawk <div>▪ Mohawk Dutch</div>
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	<i>None</i> (mis)
Glottolog	<i>None</i>

See also

- Jersey Dutch
- Michif
- Mohawk language
- Pidgin Delaware

References

1. *A History of the Schenectady Patent in the Dutch and English Times*, by Jonathan Pearson, Junius Wilson MacMurray. Published 1883 by Munsell's Sons, Schenectady, NY. Original from Harvard University, digitized May 10, 2007.
2. <http://threerivershms.com/mohawkdutch.htm> The Mohawk Dutch and the Palatines
3. Sijs, Nicolien van der (2009) *Cookies, coleslaw, and Stoops. The influence of Dutch on the North American languages* Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press, p.36

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